

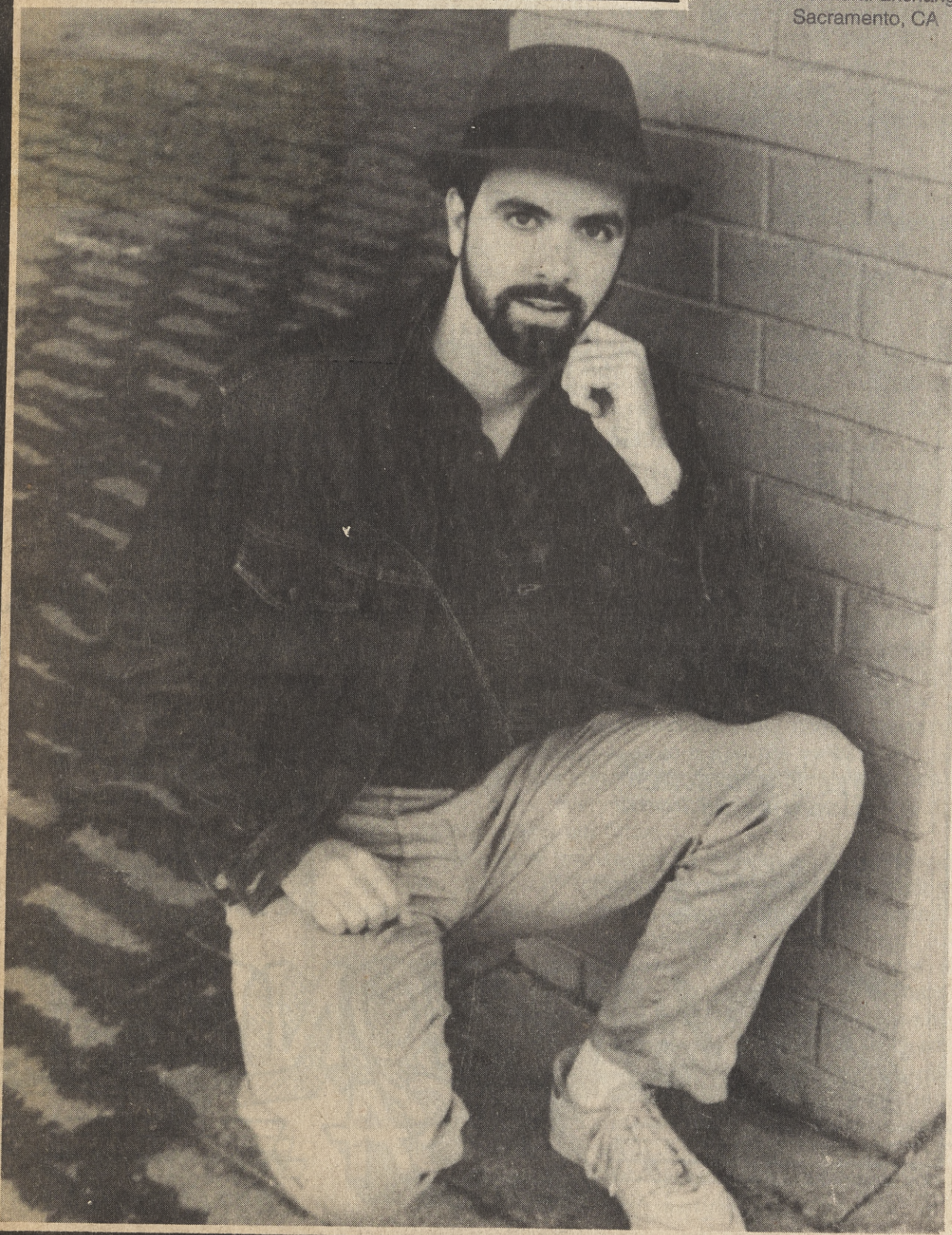
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Voice of Gay America

NOVEMBER 1987

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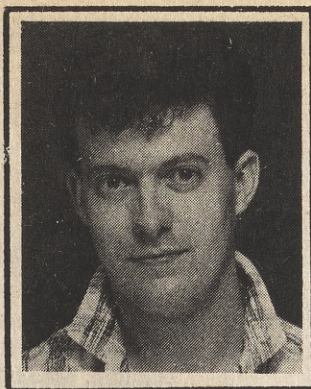
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RECURRENTS

by Keith Miller

We, the people of the United States of America have of late been given regular dose of freedom, civil rights, and liberty with our daily A.M. beverage of choice, the words headlining story after story in every major newspaper and magazine. The media have had a 40-acre field day, plowing the rich furrows of a harvest supplied by the likes of

Oliver North, Robert Bork, and the bicentennial of the Constitution.

We have been glorified by parades and statue-buffing in Philadelphia, by celebrations across the U.S. of A; WE have been endangered by the threat of a dubious civil servant coming within a scraggly beard-hair breadth of an appointment to a seat on the Supreme Court, and a President who proclaims that if had the appointment to do over again, he would do it the very same way; WE were singed by an illiterate with gasoline and a match in Arcadia, Florida. Forget Oliver North--I refuse to shred any light on the subject. As the year has gone by, WE have been examining our freedom, civil rights, and liberty in the context of how each suits us in the past, present, and future.

Lines of citizens waited patiently in Independence Hall to stand on tip-toe and peer into the glass case containing the ageless document known as the Constitution. Eyes misted and tears fell at the thought of our great freedom. If you're like me, you well up every time you hear a rousing Sousa march. It is so easy to gaze at the Constitution and feel the past in the huge signature of John Hancock. It makes one revel in it, and then slip dreamily away, anxiously anticipating a fruitful future that is the right of each and every one of us. Yes, the past and the future--neatly packaging what we know as the present. We tend to stay at one end or the other, where it's comfortable and safe, and always a fantasy. It's never that easy to take a good look at what we have now--in the present. Our past has created our everyday lives, and each move that we now make, every breath we take, each thought that we think instantly shapes our future.

How often have you stopped and expressed thanksgiving for what you have NOW? This moment in time. It's shaping your tomorrow. Are you thankful for the hundreds of thousands who marched on Washington in a massive outpouring of love? Are you thankful for the 600 who were arrested on the steps of the Supreme Court, who lobby for our rights, who give voice to so many who are speechless? Are you thankful for your good health?

Let us add to the list the spouses, mates, lovers, friends, and families of people with AIDS who are strong enough to smile and shine a bright light. For those people with AIDS who refuse to believe that they MUST die, who constantly strive to heal themselves and by doing so, heal all those around them.

Let us rejoice in our family and friends who touch us daily

See More RECURRENTS, Page 36

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BANANA INDUSTRY OUTRAGED!

The American banana industry has been quite unmused by a recent TV demonstration which fitted a condom over a banana to illustrate safe sex.

Even more interesting is the fact that the half-hour show, "AIDS: Changing The Rules" is being hosted by President Reagan's son, Ron, on PBS sometime this month.

A two-minute sequence demonstrates in detail, with a banana used as a prop, the right way for a man to don a condom. Medical authorities have said a condom can protect against transmission of the AIDS virus. PBS plans to screen its program every night for a week to get the message across.

The Washington-based International Banana Association has protested to PBS over the use of what it calls the world's favorite fruit as a prop in the program. "Our industry finds such usage of our product to be totally unacceptable," wrote Robert Moore, president of the group, which represents U.S. banana importers. "The banana is an important product and deserves to be treated with respect and consideration." "The banana is the No. 1 fruit consumed in the world. It's No. 2 after milk in ready-to-eat food."

Moore ranted, raved, and raged on that he failed to understand why a banana had to be used in the program. Health instructors used broom handles for condom demonstrations when he was in the Army, he insisted, and that seemed perfectly adequate to him.

PRESIDENT BUCHANAN MAY HAVE BEEN GAY!

There is a body of evidence that suggests that James Buchanan, who served as president of the United States from 1857 to 1861, may have been gay.

According to Carl Sterrazza Anthony, in an article which appears in this month's Penthouse magazine, the following items would seem to indicate Buchanan's gayness.

* Buchanan was a lifelong bachelor.

* First Lady Sarah Polk, a strict Calvinist, avoided Buchanan when he was secretary of state in the late 1840s because of his close relationship with another bachelor, a senator from Alabama named William King. In an extant piece of correspondence, a friend who wrote to Mrs. Polk said that King was Buchanan's "better half."

* Buchanan and King were roommates in Washington for no fewer than 23 years.

* When Buchanan was serving in Congress and King was U. S. Ambassador to France, King wrote the following to Buchanan: "I am selfish enough to hope you will not be able to procure an associate who will cause you to feel no regret at our separation." In still another letter, King wrote that he missed Buchanan and hoped to be recalled and replaced in Paris "by someone who has more of the spirit of a man."

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Cranberries In White Paper Cups

by Ann Muller

I'm lukewarm about Thanksgiving. The holiday that requires either a love of football or the kitchen skill to produce ten hot dishes at the same time has always made me feel inadequate.



In the years the children were growing up and I was working in the law office, I worked both the day before and the day after Thanksgiving. Every year as we left the office at 5 P. M. on Wednesday, the lawyer I worked for used to say, "So, Ann, are you going to make turkey-with-all-the-trimmings tomorrow?" And every year I swallowed the answer he deserved which was, "Look, dimwit, there's no way I can do turkey-with-all-the-damned-trimmings between now and

half-time tomorrow afternoon."

Some of those years Herman, the children, and I ate our Thanksgiving dinners in restaurants where little white paper cups full of canned cranberries combined with a paucity of leftovers to make us feel like Thanksgiving orphans.

Some years we ate with relatives and wished we were orphans. I remember, for instance, the year my brother, who had just left California one step ahead of the law, entertained us over turkey with such outrageous stories that Herman's neck and face turned red under the strain of stifled obscenities.

I also remember the first Thanksgiving both Jason and his sister were gone. Herman and I went to a so-called family restaurant where the waiter was too busy to remove the two extra place settings on our table. Throughout the meal, those empty plates and chairs served as ghost-like reminders of the absent children.

On the other hand, our Thanksgivings are improving. Last year a friend invited Herman and me to her annual Thanksgiving potluck dinner. My assignment (which sure beat serving up ten hot dishes simultaneously) was to bring a bottle of wine and enough sweet potatoes to feed eight people.

Herman wasn't sure. "Will we be the only heterosexual couple there?" he asked me. "Yes," I answered, "we probably will be." "And," he continued, "do you think I'll be the only male?" "Yes," I answered, "you probably will be." As it turned out, we were, and he would have been except for the brother of our hostess's lover who dropped in after dinner.

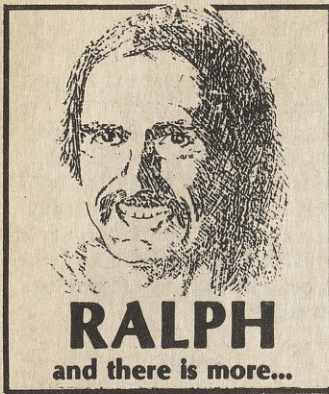
And from our first smell of roast turkey and the sound of one of our favorite composers on the stereo until many hours later when Herman finally pulled himself away from an engrossing conversation with another guest and we said our goodbyes, it was a great Thanksgiving.

I think I've finally accepted the idea that Thanksgiving for me and my family isn't defined by Rockwellian drawings. Our grandmother never did live over the river or through the woods, and now she lives in Fort Myers, Florida. I also think that's fine because the things for which I'm thankful this year might have surprised both Norman Rockwell and Grandma.

Without a doubt, my primary thanks this year is for Jason's good health. Beyond that, I'm thankful he was strong enough to grow up gay and whole. And because we live where Gacy and Eyler stalked gay adolescent boys, I'm thankful Jason grew up safe. I'm also glad he trusts me and his dad. The three of us could have danced a lifetime away avoiding the subject of his homosexuality; I'm glad we're not. I grew up in a family where we "didn't talk about" certain subjects, and I now believe secrets separate. I'm also thankful for Jason's dad who has always understood about

See More MULLER, Page 8

AND THERE IS MORE...



What is more fascinating than sin? The Tammy and Jimmy Bakker scandal, Gary Hart's indiscretions, even Pat Robertson! All have gained attention and notoriety in the press because they have "sinned!"

The whole concept of sin is one more piece or one more spin-off of the good old Right/Wrong game. And, we love it! What gives us more fun than gossiping and sharing all the stuff we know about whomever and whatever. It doesn't take a lot of imagination to see that the fascination is somehow connected with our own "sins." We may not be crystal pure, but at least we are not as bad as.....(fill in the blank)!

So the whole sin racket gives us one more way of invalidating one another and "making others wrong," and there isn't a one of us who doesn't play in that game at least some of the time. We usually manage to get a great charge out of showing how bad someone else is as a way of demonstrating how good we are. Oh, how we delight in pointing out--and gloating over--the sins of others!

But the worst part is that we choose to approach this whole issue from this perspective of "right" and "wrong" and do it, most of the time, oblivious to the fact that to play the game of right/wrong is the play into that game, for we, too, do "bad" things; we too sin (and probably take delicious delight in it, as we do).

The result is a continuous round of sins, and black acts and unkind deeds and evil action, for all of us.

It could serve to check up on the original meaning of the word "sin," for that could change this whole merry-go-round. The literal meaning of the word from which our word "sin" comes is "to miss the mark," as with an archer whose arrow fails to score a bull's eye.

What a breath of fresh air would be let in to the whole issue if we remembered that meaning! To sin then means simply to have fallen short, to have not scored the bull's eye, to have accomplished something less than intended; therefore, it provides the sinner with a built-in opportunity for correction, for improvement, for growth and change!

How different that than the concept of sin which means that it is something to be punished, something which is bad; something for which one can go to hell, or be excommunicated or stoned or flogged!

I commend this new (and very old) definition of sin to you as salutary! Begin to embrace it first in your own life, and when you feel you have sinned, simply look for the ways that you can learn from that and so inform your behavior to come closer to the mark the next time! After you have practiced this kind of self-evaluation in regard to your sins, you will begin to experience yourself differently and see yourself not as a sinner, but as an individual who is learning and self-correcting when s/he falls short of the mark. It makes life a whole new ballgame. I suggest that you try it and find out.

Then, as you expand outward from your changed self-image, you'll discover that you see and experience all others in a new light as well. They are not sinners; they are simply human beings, doing the best they can and learning from mistakes as they grow.

And, the world will become a brighter and more hopeful place. Try it; you'll like it.

And, for those who follow the domestic drama of this household, let it be known that my other half moved back home after only a week away. And, both he and I approach all of what has happened, not as "sin" but as some actions (on both parts) that managed to "miss the mark" and provided opportunities for learning and growth for the two of us.

And, you see, some parts of what happened would be read as "sin" or "sinful" by the usual rules of the right/wrong game, but we both grow increasingly skillful at avoiding that game. We find life becomes richer and more rewarding on all levels as we manage to do that--with each other and with the world.

[Ralph H. Walker, Ed. D., is creator of The Loving Brotherhood and of the ALL NEW YOU Experience. The next offering of the Experience is November 28-29 at The Barn in Sussex, New Jersey. There are spaces available in this weekend and in the YOU in Hawaii in April 1988. For information, write PO Box 556, Sussex, NJ 07461; telephone (201) 875-4710.]



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More Muller, From Page 6

families and for little Sarah who, at four months, has brought her mom and her Uncle Jason closer than they've ever been.

I'm thankful, too, this sixth Thanksgiving after Jason came out, for the experiences that have been mine as his mother. For instance, I'm thankful for the people I love, both gay and nongay, whom I would never have otherwise met. I'm thankful for my friend who reminds me of the fragile quality of life and the importance of seeing today's joy because tomorrow's is unpredictable. I'm thankful for Jason's friend who is still a part of my life even though Jason has not lived at home for three years. And, finally, I'm thankful for the hope that we may again be included in a Thanksgiving where there are no white paper cups of canned cranberries and where somebody else copes with the gravy that refuses to thicken while everything else gets cold.

JOY--Now and Then!

by Joy TeSelle

My life partner and I have just added an exciting new dimension to our lives with the purchase of a very mini-motorhome, a totally unexpected and unbelievable luxury for us which has already begun to enrich and expand our lives. With this new tool for living, we are bursting the bonds and shackles of age and infirmity which have beset us both in recent years, and which have curtailed the camping and outdoor activities which were always such a vital enjoyment factor of our lives together. We've just spent our first wonderful week of footloose, vagabond travel, and are eagerly looking forward to many new and joyous outdoor experiences.

The financing of this purchase inevitably brought to mind some of our early experiences, and comparisons between the social and economic climate in which we lived THEN and that in which we NOW live. Although both of us are elderly, physically disabled to some degree, no longer able to sustain gainful employment, dependent on small retirement incomes, and possessed of limited assets, we were able to secure a purchase loan with relatively little effort. Nobody at the credit union looked askance at two WOMEN coming in to finance a purchase seemingly beyond our means.

Such was not the case in our early years together. At one time we were very much in need of \$200 to get some essential repair work done on our car--a vital means of transportation to and from work. None of the financial institutions we approached, including the bank which handled our checking accounts, would consider lending such a sum to TWO WOMEN. We were both employed, albeit at low salaries, and had years of good credit behind us. The credit ratings earned through years of careful management during our married years were considered non-existent. They did not belong to US, and were wiped out with the dissolution of our marriages. We were forced to obtain the co-signature of an obliging MALE friend in order to get the small loan we needed.

Another interesting commentary on those times was that none of the financial institutions we visited had women loan officers. Although there were some women tellers, there were no women bank officials. The credit union branch where we obtained our recent loan was staffed ENTIRELY by female loan officers. Well, that is going a bit TOO far, perhaps--but the changes are significant.

We have ALL come a long way, Baby!

BOOK REVIEW

To All The Girls I've Loved Before: An AIDS Diary, J. W. Money, Alyson Publications, 1987.

Reviewed by Ellen Roth

J. W. Money exhibits a wonderful giftedness in the small essays in his AIDS diary. They range from indignation

over various human frailties (especially those displayed by medical personnel insensitive to AIDS sufferers), tributes to various people including Liz Taylor, and comments on the artistry of many including Placido Domingo.

But the main thread in these pages is the account of how J. W. managed to live through the dying process, for his last day was October 11, 1986 at the age of 43. Especially poignant is the account of his asking his elderly par-

ents for money for his treatment. They refused because "you might get sick and need the money." He broke off relations with them and returned the small checks they continued to send. But later in the book he writes movingly about his love for his mother.

I skipped around in the book, reading first the titles that especially amused me. Rearranged, the book could be considered a practical guide on the management of AIDS: how to cough, the importance of an electric blanket, etc. He ends one section entitled "Hints that Heloise Hardly Hints at" with, "If you stay alive one extra year, that might be all this is necessary to enjoy the benefits of a new life-sustaining technique." J. W. Money never gave up hope and never was less than realistic about his inexorable decline into death.

Money's low-key conversational style makes his often grim topics bearable to read if you too have suffered the loss of a friend to AIDS. As a reviewer, I am saddened that such a gifted man is no longer here to continue his work.

The title essay summarizes J. W.'s affairs with women and like all his essays is punctuated with flashes of insight into his own problems. "I was a traumatized kid emotionally half my real age and sex was the last thing I needed." Through the essays we pick up on the details of his life--he had been molested in childhood, spent his 20th-22nd years in a mental hospital, was wildly promiscuous (mostly with men), and had many loving and loved friends who miss him. After reading these essays, I too miss J. W. Money.

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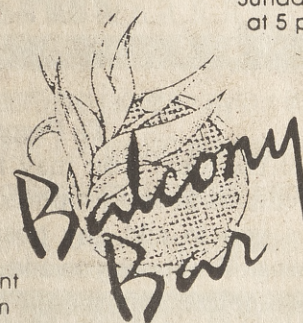
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CRACKER'S CUPBOARD

by Crackers IX de Modesto

Gawd! Thanksgiving already. This is probably the only month when everyone thinks food more than sex. That makes this column very difficult. Everyone has his or her own specialties for the holiday. Do I offer you something traditional, new, heavy, light, a main course, side dish, dessert, or a vegetable? Having searched through all my references, here is my decision.

THANKSGIVING DINNER

Ingredients:

Prepare your favorite cocktail or beverage, relax, and reflect. Concentrate on the good and be thankful.

Invite an acquaintance who is away from family to share your dinner.

Contact any local charity and make a donation to their food closet for those in need.

Invite an AIDS/ARC patient to share your dinner and company.

Mend a "broken fence."

Crack open the closet door one more inch.

Don't forget the flowers.

Adopt a pet.

Plant a tree.

Smile all day.

To Prepare:

You get the idea. You may mix or match any of the above ingredients in any proportions you wish. This recipe also allows you to add any positive ingredients of your own choosing. The more you add, the better it gets.

When complete, this should resemble a heart and soul of enlarged proportions, but with absolutely no increase in ego. It will leave you and this world with that traditional "stuffed" feeling of Thanksgiving Dinner.

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AT WORK:

Confronting Homophobia: A Shocking Experience

by Stephen Dolainski and Stephen Husa

It's always a shock to discover through actual experience that being gay can be an obstacle at our jobs or in our careers. We can talk about the possibility of it, read about it, and write about it; but not until we're faced with the reality of it do we realize that it can and does happen.

For D. P., an advertising account supervisor, the reality hit home almost immediately when he recently moved to Los Angeles from New York, where he had handled his agency's top accounts. Thus far, he had not encountered a job-related problem that he could attribute to being openly gay, and his award-winning work had earned him an excellent reputation within the agency and among his clients.

D. P.'s particular experience involves an Los Angeles based headhunter who was impressed with his background and was eager to represent him to his clients in the city. When D. P. arrived in Los Angeles, the headhunter met with him and immediately arranged an interview for him with an ad agency.

As D. P. recalls it, the interview proceeded in a friendly and positive manner. At no time did he sense any hostility or homophobia. "That was not something I was concerned about," he says. "I was more concerned that my background wasn't exactly what they were looking for."

The next day, D. P. followed up with a phone call to the headhunter. The agency did not think D. P. was right for the job, which came as no surprise to him. What did surprise him was the headhunter's sarcastic comment that "Los Angeles isn't New York. Things aren't so open out here."

D. P. had sensed during the conversation that the headhunter was holding something back. Now, fairly certain he knew what that was, D. P. spoke up.

"Does that mean there's a problem with me being gay?" he asked. D. P. was surprised by his own frankness, but, he says, "I felt it was better to get this out in the open, and I'm glad I did. From the rest of our conversation, I feel pretty sure that the agency didn't have a problem. I don't think they even brought it up. But the headhunter had a definite problem. So, I told him that unless he believed in me totally, we would 'no longer be working together.' I fired him."

Did D. P. do the right thing? The incident left him stunned and emotionally upset, and at first he wasn't sure he had acted in his own best interest. "It took days to get over it, I was so angry and hurt that the issue ever came up in the first place," he recalls. "At first, I did think that I'd made a mistake, that maybe I shouldn't have reacted so quickly, that maybe I should have butched up my act and let it pass."

Now, however, D. P. believes that he did what was best for him. He had acted consistently with his decision to lead an openly gay life, and that makes him feel good about his decision to find another headhunter to work with. "I can't try to pretend anymore that I'm someone other than who I am. I've tried that before, and it just doesn't work for me."

D. P. believes that the circumstances that led up to the incident were neither predictable nor preventable. If there had been some warning that the incident was going to occur, he thinks he might have tried to prevent it. But, he adds, "I'm not sure how I would have done that."

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THE GREEN THUMB

by Robert B. Hamm
Seasonal Changes

This period of the year is one of change. While many plants are going dormant or into winter rest, a whole class of plants, the winter growing and blooming varieties, are coming into their own.

Items such as Poinsettia, Christmas and Holiday Cacti, and Kalanchoes are plants that require long, uninterrupted nights to bloom. These plants should not have any artificial lights near them at night; such lights may prevent blooming. Poinsettias are so sensitive in this regard that simply turning a light on and off for a few moments can prevent them from blooming. Once blooming, however, these plants can be put into a lighted room for all to enjoy.

A second group of plants requires the longer nights of winter and cooler temperatures to set buds that will bloom in late winter and spring; however, they are not quite so touchy about it. This group should be kept out of artificial light as much as possible, but should get lots of natural light and cooler temperatures. Included in this group are most of the Cacti, most of the rhizomatous Begonias, and many plants of temperate origin such as Saxifraga sarmentosa, the so-called "Strawberry Begonia" (which isn't a begonia at all). Many people grow these plants very successfully but never get any blooms because the plants do not get the correct winter "rest" that they need to set buds.

House plants are generally going into winter rest with the declining light levels. This generally means they will need less water and feeding. Traditionally, advice was not to feed at all during winter. However, recently I know a number of growers who have had good luck simply cutting back the strength of the fertilizer and feeding all winter. I suspect that a lot of whether this will work for an individual depends on your growing conditions. The better your light situation, the more effect continuing feeding would have.

Outdoor plants are definitely going into winter dormancy. In milder climates, winter blooming cyclamen, pansies, etc. are being set out. A few items require special notes. If you have a maple that needs hard pruning (especially silver maples), they should be pruned right after they go dormant. This is generally about 30 days after leaf drop. The reason for this is that maples bleed extensively and so should be pruned after the sap has stopped running. If you wait until late winter, the sap will be rising and the tree will bleed excessively.

Another note on pruning: Do not prune any of the spring-blooming shrubs such as Azalea, Rhododendron, Forsythia, Quince, Wisteria, species Roses, etc. as these bloom on the past year's growth and will already have set the buds for next spring.

DEADLINE FOR OMEGA MAGAZINE IS: **December 1st**

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More WORK, From Page 12

Has the experience left D. P. jittery about the possibility of similar incidents occurring in the future? He doesn't think so. "It could certainly happen again, I know. And it will probably upset me again if it does. But if it does, I don't think I'll be quite so surprised, and I'll be more prepared to handle it."

Incidents like the one D. P. experienced do not happen to all gay people, of course. His may or may not even be typical of the ones that do occur. And as he has learned, there is little any of us can do to predict or prevent them. What is predictable, however, is that when such an incident does occur, the effect can be emotionally upsetting. We may not be able to completely prevent that result, although we can minimize it by responding with our own best interests at heart. Doing what is right for ourselves may not always be easy, but it can take the sting out of the bite.

FEMALE PRIEST SCANDALIZES ITALY!

In Turin, Italy, the newspaper *La Stampa* recently reported on the case of one Father Paolo who retired from the priesthood after becoming a woman. A mere woman, however, not a nun.

It seems that Father Paolo served as a parish priest for a quarter of a century before his desire to become a woman finally got the best of him.

Apparently Father Paolo's story goes something like this: He told his confessor that he wanted to be a woman. Said confessor ordered him to hush up and to pray. He then told his bishop that he wanted to become a woman. The bishop seemed to think he was being selfish and ordered him to stop thinking about himself. A physician in northern Italy sent him to a psychologist for counseling. The psychologist, apparently at a loss, sent him to a physician who apparently sent him to a surgeon who knew exactly how to change him into a woman, and did.

Father Paolo then applied for early retirement, but apparently without telling the Catholic Church, which frowns on female priests, about his change of gender. Permission for early retirement was granted, and now Paolo [Paola?] is receiving a pension!

The case has caused enough notoriety throughout Italy that the Catholic Church has appointed a commission of inquiry.

CROSSROADS

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MILWAUKEE

After a 12-year battle with the US Army since her honorable discharge in 1976, Sergeant Miriam Ben-Shalom received orders recently to report for duty to the 509 1st US Army Reception Battalion of the 84th Division US Army Reserve of Milwaukee.

Ben-Shalom was honorably discharged because of homosexuality. The Army admitted that there was no evidence of misconduct and acknowledged that she had been an outstanding drill sergeant.

The Seventh Circuit Court of Appeals issued a decision on behalf of Ben-Shalom, which included protection from further discrimination, harassment, or retaliation. The Army, which had been expected to appeal her case to the Supreme Court, accepted the decision and agreed to accept Ben-Shalom back, making her the first gay individual to win reinstatement in the military.

REGO PARK

The International Women's Guesthouse Registry (IWGR) provides current and confidential listings of women-owned-and-operated bed and breakfasts, inns, and campgrounds is the U.S. and abroad.

The registry was founded by the Fountain Institute for

Women, a non-profit organization dedicated to the advancement of women. The Institute will send their listing of women-owned accommodations within a state or region in which there is an interest. There is a \$3 service fee for state/region (payable to Fountain Institute for Women).

Persons who are interested in starting their own B&B may also receive free help.

The Institute also publishes Travel Talk, a free quarterly newsletter for gay women who enjoy traveling or who enjoy reading about exciting places.

For more information, write Fountain Institute for Women, PO Box 700, Rego Park, NY 11374.

PROVINCETOWN

In an unprecedented move, the Provincetown Board of Selectmen declared Sunday, October 11 to be LESBIAN AND GAY RIGHTS DAY. According to Gene Greene, president of The Provincetown Business Guild, "Provincetown indeed is a very special place to live, to be, and to grow in. And grow we must. Growth is compromise, tolerance, understanding, acceptance. By accepting ourselves and our lifestyles, we more easily accept all others and their lifestyles. By this proclamation, a precedent is being set for others to follow."

LANSING

The Lesbian/Gay Council RAP features brief presentations by speakers followed by group discussion and questions (50 minutes). There is also an opportunity to socialize at local establishments after meetings.

All meetings are held in the Northwestern Room in the MSU Union Building. Meetings begin at 6:15 PM on Sundays. The topics to be covered in the next several weeks are shown below:

* November 8: Lesbian and Gay Civil Rights.

* November 15: Sober Lesbians: Conquering Chemical Dependency.

* November 22: Coping During The Holidays.

* December 6: Gay Theatre Presentation.

For more information, call 353-9795 in Lansing, Michigan.

PHOENIX

The Arizona Gay Rodeo Association will present its third annual rodeo on January 15-17, 1988. The New Mexico Gay Rodeo Association is the co-sponsor of the event.

Some of the best cowgirls and cowboys will be competing for prizes, buckles, and points.

For information, call (602) 230-1170.

PATLAR, November 1987, Page Fifteen

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ST. LOUIS

Affirmation: United Methodists for Lesbian/Gay Concerns has committed itself to an energetic presence at next spring's General Conference of the United Methodist Church.

The General Conference will be held in St. Louis April 26-May 7, 1988.

Plans call for Affirmation to demonstrate models for Christian ministry to all persons, including gay women and men. Among these actions will be:

- * choral performances for delegates of contemporary hymns proclaiming the biblical mandate for inclusiveness and service rather than exclusiveness and condemnation;

- * street theater centering on peace-and-justice issues;

- * a dinner to celebrate justice seekers in the United Methodist tradition;

- * a special worship service, which will include the memorializing of persons who have died from AIDS; and

- * a hospitality suite a few blocks from the St. Louis convention center for delegates and others who need a place of retreat when conference actions get too burdensome and oppressive.

"Too often, the institutional church forgets what it really means to follow Jesus' mandate," said Mary Gaddis, an Affirmation spokesperson. "We see General Conference as a great opportunity for us to remind our church just what Christian love is all about."

FRANKFORT

The Kentucky Court of Appeals recently ruled that homosexuality alone does not make a person an unfit parent.

A gay mother sought modification of a court order which granted custody of her 12-year-old daughter to her ex-husband. She sought custody after learning he beat the child.

The lower court found that there were "definite problems" caused by the father's excessive temper and undue harsh disciplining of the child" but ruled that the mother's homosexuality barred her from custody.

The Court of Appeals reversed the decision and said that the parent's sexual orientation could not be considered as a factor in the custody decision.

ANN ARBOR

The University of Michigan Medical Center's Turner Geriatric Services has formed a support group for older gay adults. The group meets at the Turner Geriatric Clinic, 1010 Wall Street, Ann Arbor, MI. Questions may be directed to Nancy Hall, facilitator, at (313) 764-2556.

CORPUS CHRISTI

Representatives from three of the city's five gay bars met recently to create a city-wide organization.

The group agreed on two major goals: to provide a voice for gay-related issues and to raise funds for activities.

A title for the organization and by-laws will be adopted in the future. Bars expected to participate are Chaps Saloon, the Hidden Door, Jolly Jack II, and the Other Door.

SEATTLE

PARTNERS: The Newsletter For Gay & Lesbian Couples offers a free, newly expanded list of "Resources for Gay & Lesbian Couples." The annotated list contains information on nationwide social, political, and support groups that serve homosexual couples. Relevant books, videotapes, and films are also listed.

To receive a copy, send a self-addressed, stamped business envelope to: **PARTNERS**, Box 9685, Seattle, WA 98109.

PARTNERS, an eight-page monthly, contains interviews, news, and features by professionals. According to publishers Stevie Bryant and Demian, "PARTNERS provides practical information and ideas couples can use to develop satisfying and successful relationships." The newsletter's mailing list is confidential; never lent or sold.

Available by subscription, the publication costs \$36 per year, \$3 per sample issue.

AUSTIN

Women of Waterloo, a project of Austin's Waterloo Counseling Center, recently sponsored a seminar on alternatives for gay women interested in becoming parents.

A variety of alternatives including artificial insemination, adoption, and co-parenting were discussed by local practitioners. Information and advice on the legal implications of parenting alternatives were discussed. And lesbian parents from the Austin community discussed their personal experiences.

For more information, call Kathryn Baker at (512) 322-9654.



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RENO

by Kevin Ryan

Shuttle Night '87! Shuttle Night is back for its second year. This year it promises to be even bigger and better than last year. A passport may be purchased for \$5 at any of the eight gay bars in Reno. The passport permits the holder transportation all night. The bus will be run from 5 PM Friday November 27 until 5 AM Saturday November 28 continuously between the bars. Bus schedules are listed inside the passports. This year the whole community is behind the event. Many people, businesses, and organizations in Reno have agreed to become sponsors to ensure the success of the event. We want to extend an invitation to persons from other cities to join us again this year in the night of fun and fun raising. Proceeds will be used to support the soon-to-be-opened Reno Hospice House. For more information, call (702) 827-1995.

LONG BEACH

Extortion letters recently were sent to several gay men in the Long Beach area which warned the men to pay \$3000 or face "violent pressures."

The letter received by one man accused him of "sponsoring and promoting negative community examples," "sponsorship of homosexual marriages," and "promoting the employment of homosexuals."

The letters were sent by an organization identifying itself as the Community Control Group of the Lord's Order and were postmarked August 5 in Baltimore, Maryland.

The letters indicated that the sender has knowledge of specific aspects of the recipients' lives.

While some of the men are openly gay, others are closeted and cannot recall having their names on any gay-oriented lists.

The letters are being investigated by the FBI.

PHILADELPHIA

Police Commissioner Keven Tucker has barred officers from compiling "any list related to a communicable-disease patient" after a precinct posted the names of people believed to have AIDS.

Tucker issued the ban after officers in the 18th precinct in west Philadelphia were reported to have been keeping a list of the names and addresses of people in the district thought to have AIDS.

ST. PETERSBURG BEACH

CAPE HOUSE, a bed and breakfast inn, recently opened its doors with a grand-opening celebration. It offers quiet Cape Cod charm in a renovated, clapboard, 2-story house located in historic Pass-A-Grille, St. Petersburg Beach, Florida. Cape House has a private deck, heated spa, daily social hour, and complimentary continental breakfast.

Located just a few steps from the Gulf of Mexico, owners Rich and Ron have brought a mix of quiet ambiance and down-home charm from California and New York. The inn offers the feeling of old Cape Cod year-round, with each room filled with antiques and designer touches.

The gay beach and bar are within a short walk. Great restaurants and other beach facilities are nearby.

For more information, call (813) 367-6971.

WOODLAND

Gays of Yolo County (GOYC) in California is continuing to grow. Several men attended the last rap group. The participants enjoyed the opportunity to share feelings and ideas with other gay men. The group also puts out a monthly newsletter which discusses local gay happenings.

For more information, call (916) 661-6278.

CHICAGO

The beauty of music inspired by the holiday season will fill Chicago's Orchestra Hall at 2:30 PM on Sunday, December 20, 1987, when the Windy City Gay Chorus, under the direction of Founding Director Richard Garrin, performs its ninth holiday concert, "Don We No...IX." This concert will start the ensemble's ninth performing season, and will be the first time that this annual concert has been heard at Orchestra Hall.

To mark the occasion, Maestro Garrin has programmed a rich array of superb works for male chorus, brass, and organ. In addition, a commissioned work by noted Chicago area composer Kim Lyons for male chorus, brass quartet, organ, harp, and handbells will receive its world premiere at the concert. The audience-pleasing Windy City Slickers, well known for their presentations of popular favorites, will also be featured.

Under Garrin's leadership, the Windy City Gay Chorus has been lauded as one of the most eminent male choruses in the nation. Its artistic excellence has been acknowledged by significant grants from the National Endowment for the Arts, the Illinois Arts Council, and the City of Chicago.

For further information, call the Chorus hotline at (312)-SING.

LOS ANGELES

The West Coast Lesbian Collection (WCLC) in Oakland has become the Mazer Collection in Southern California. Long-time Los Angeles community activist June Mazer died of cancer earlier this year and the WCLC's original founders decided to move the collection to Southern California where support for it was stronger.

Mazer's long-time domestic partner Bunny MacCullough is housing the archives in the living room of her home and is coordinating efforts to fund and maintain the historical materials.

"With no culture, history, or past, we not only have the burden of isolation, but the burden of being defined only by our enemies," says MacCullough.

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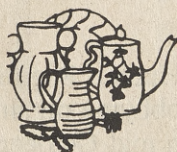
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IRVINE

ECCO, the Elections Committee of the County of Orange in California, held its Fourth Annual Dinner in Irvine in late October. Congresswoman Barbara Boxer (D-CA) and Congressman John Miller (R-WA) were the dinner speakers; feminist attorney Gloria Allred received ECCO's first annual Elizabeth Cady Stanton Award.

Congresswoman Boxer, representing a diverse constituency in Northern California, has been a member of Congress since 1982. She is a member of House Budget and Armed Services committees, and is head of a special AIDS task force. She has achieved passage of bills to establish Women's History Week and Women's History Month, and has introduced a measure to establish a Federal Council on Women to conduct research on the feminization of poverty. She has also been extremely active on environmental issues.

Congressman Miller, representing the Seattle area, was elected in 1984. He was a co-sponsor of a \$400 million AIDS testing and counseling bill which strengthened confidentiality requirements and contained anti-discrimination provisions to protect people with AIDS or who are seropositive for the virus. He is a member of the House Subcommittee on Fisheries and Wildlife Conservation and the Environment, and the Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues. Congressman Miller is also a member of The Nature Conservancy.

Gloria Allred is a noted human-rights and feminist attorney. She has pioneered new case law defending the rights of women, as well as gay men and lesbians. She is currently representing a former (Irvine) University High School student who was barred from being photographed with his male companion for a class reunion souvenir album. Ms. Allred received ECCO's Elizabeth Cady Stanton Award, created to honor people making outstanding contributions toward achieving equality for women.

Other award recipients at the dinner included Alex Wentzel, Devron Kelly Huber (posthumous), Pearl Jemison-Smith, and Don Hagan.

ECCO is a political-action committee working to end discrimination based on gender and sexual orientation. For more information, call (714) 494-4395.

SAN FRANCISCO

A fantasy come true! The gay members of Golden State Peace Officers Association (GSPOA) in association with Dreamland Productions will hold a Tea Dance!!

"PIGS IN PARADISE" is a benefit for the GSPOA Education Fund and AIDS Emergency Fund. It will be held at Dreamland (715 Harrison at 3rd) on Sunday November 15, 1987 from 4:00 PM to midnight with music by DJ Robbie Leslie.

Sally DeHaven, GSPOA President, and the organization's secretary, Dean Gross, explained that one of the goals of the dance is to increase the visibility of gay officers in the community. "It's a good opportunity to dance, socialize, and have a good time with the men and women who serve our community. The better we get to know each other, the more the public will understand and appreciate our group."

Tickets for this event are on sale at Headlines, All American Boy, G. W. Finley, and New York Man. Admission is \$10 advance/ \$15 at the door.

For more information, call Gary Butler at (415) 647-0419.

NEW YORK

The Human Rights Campaign Fund, the nation's only gay PAC and a leading lobbying organization, hosted its Sixth Annual Dinner in the Waldorf Astoria in mid-October. Over 1000 of the most influential gay people in the nation attended the event along with major political and civic leaders, stars of the theater, film, and fashion industries.

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WEST HOLLYWOOD

A glittering roster of stars appeared at the Third Annual Commitment to Life Celebration held recently in West Hollywood. The event honored medical researcher and humanitarian Mathilde Krim, Ph.D.

Among those who appeared on stage at the stylish affair were Billy Crystal, Whoopi Goldberg, Patti LaBelle, and Frances Rufelle. The evening was produced and directed by George Schlatter.

Celebrity ushers and presenters included Brooke Adams, Bess Armstrong, Ed Begley Jr., Eileen Brennan, Bud Cort, Ted Danson, Richard Dreyfuss, Teri Garr, Bobcat Goldthwait, Linda Gray, Larry Hagman, Woody Harrelson, Sam Harris, Carol Kane, Diane Keaton, Jon Lovitz, Lorna Luft, Steve Martin, Roddy McDowell, Elizabeth McGovern, Elizabeth Montgomery, Michael O'Keefe, Linda Ronstadt, Martin Short, Gordon Thompson, Liz Torres, Lesley Ann Warren, George Wendt, and Joseph Williams.

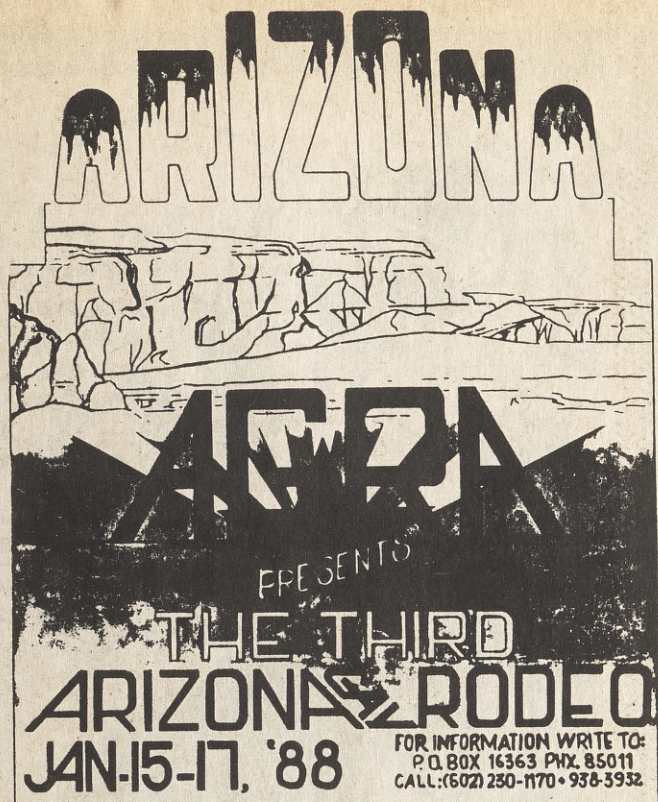
The Commitment To Life gala benefit was the third such evening organized by AIDS Project Los Angeles. The benefit was established to raise funds for AIDS Project Los Angeles, which provides and promotes public and privately funded human services for persons in Los Angeles County with AIDS and AIDS related illnesses and sponsors a network of AIDS education programs.

NEW YORK

AIDS patients gather regularly in the Greenwich Village apartment of pianist and psychic channel Van Zandt Eillis, who transmits the healing exercises of a spirit named David. According to witnesses, David's advice can be strange. Once, for instance, David gave away an Ellis memento, a Tibetan healing stick, and told a man to drive it into the earth.

Ellis and his followers represent a bold new trend. AIDS patients are now seeking alternative, often mystical, treatments. It's easy to paint this phenomenon in the blackest terms: Desperation leads to desperate measures. But according to some doctors, the determination of some patients to find the key to self-healing may in fact be doing a great deal of good.

According to a New-Jersey-based physician, Bill Harris, who has studied AIDS patients surviving at least five years since diagnosis, those AIDS patients resorting to alternative therapies demonstrate a blend of determination and positive attitude. These qualities, he adds, are crucial to rebuilding a besieged immune system.



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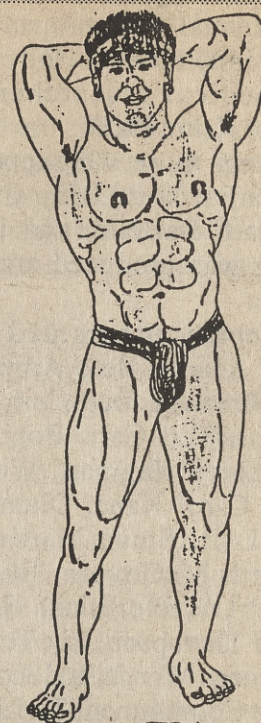
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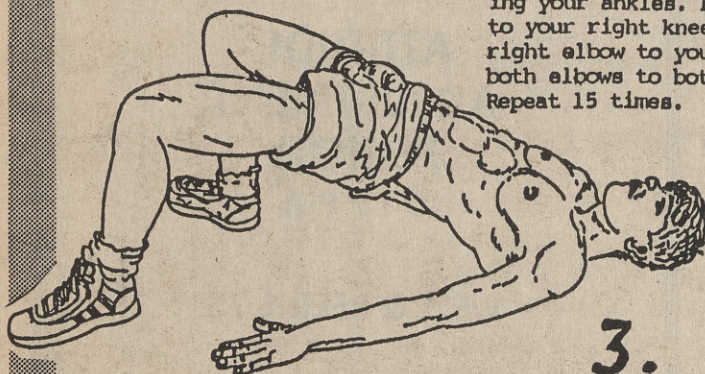


Pull-through crunches. Place your hands together and extend them between your legs with your back on the floor. Pull up and "crunch" your abs. Do not pull on your neck in this exercise; keep the tension on your abs. After "crunching", pull back to the floor for the next repetition. Keep your head about 1 inch off the floor. Repeat 15 times.

2.



Alternate elbow/knee crunches. Place your hands behind your head while bringing your knees to your chest and crossing your ankles. Bring your left elbow to your right knee. Then bring your right elbow to your left knee. Bring both elbows to both knees (crunching). Repeat 15 times.



3.

Torso crunches. Put your feet down and lift your torso up while looking at the ceiling. As you do this, exhale as much as possible and tighten your abs (pull them in as though they will go through your back). Count to 40. Then lower your torso, breathing in. Repeat the sequence 5 times.

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TRIANGLE PARK

A survey of 60 US infectious disease specialists reveals that a majority of these specialists are optimistic about an AIDS vaccine becoming available in six to ten years.

The survey was sponsored by Glaxo Inc. (Research Triangle Park, NC) and conducted at the 2nd Annual Glaxo Infectious Disease Fellows Symposium. The results of the survey follow:

- 81% of the respondents expect a vaccine for the disease. Of those expecting a vaccine, 25% expect it within one to fifteen years.

- 49% believe an vaccine will take more than ten years to develop.

- 26% believe a vaccine will take more than ten years to develop.

- 42% expect a cure for AIDS.

- 42% expect a cure will not be found.

- 51% feel there is major cause for physicians to be concerned about transmission of the virus during routine hospital procedures.

- 85% believe that there has not been too much attention focused on AIDS.

- 13% feel there is too much emphasis on the disease.

- 2% do not have an opinion.

- 88% said knowledge of AIDS would not have affected their choice of infectious disease as a specialty.

- 44% said their hospitals have treated more than 50 AIDS patients.

- 25% said their hospitals have treated between 21 and 50 patients.

- 31% said that fewer than 20 AIDS patients have been treated at their hospitals.

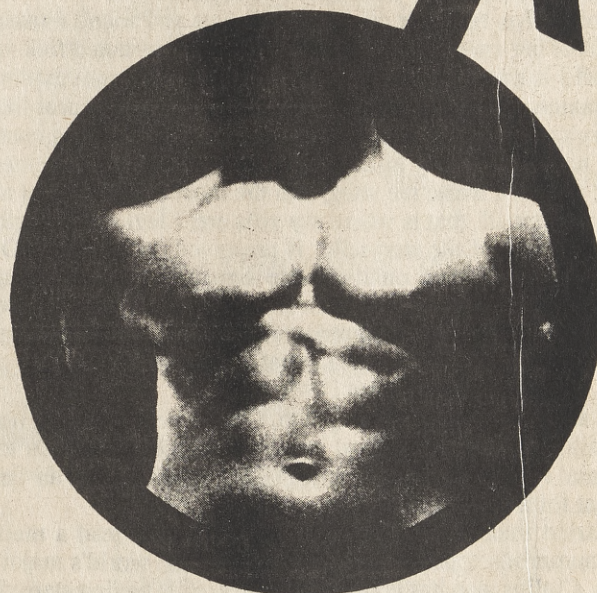
- 62% are affiliated with a hospital having more than 500 beds.

- 47% are working in cities with a population of 100,000 to 1,000,000.

- 44% are working in cities of more than 1,000,000.

- 32% are women.

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MODERN MUSIC

An Interview With Judy Collins: An Instinctive Lady by Michael Maier

One of the musical highlights this year has been the launching of a new record label, GOLD CASTLE, located in Hollywood, California. The label is small, but has big hopes which it should be able to achieve with the help of its two main hitters: Joan Baez and Judy Collins. Both ladies are using Gold Castle Records as a vehicle to establish comeback careers. Baez after a ten-year absence and Collins after only a three-year hiatus. Both are strong performers, which should start this new, independent label on the road to prosperity.

This month I will review the career and most recent release of Judy Collins. Next month I will focus on the long-awaited comeback of Joan Baez.

★ ★ ★

A few weeks ago, I interviewed a singer and songwriter who has one of music's best success stories: Judy Collins. Ms. Collins begins the 21st chapter of her career with her first album in over three years entitled: TRUST YOUR HEART.

She has earned a permanent mark in popular music for songs she recorded such as: "Both Sides Now," "Send In The Clowns," "Amazing Grace," "Someday Soon," "Suzanne," "Hard Times For Lovers," and "Who Knows Where The Time Goes," all successes which helped to define and direct music of the 70s. Her accomplishments are not restricted to merely million-selling album, but through her music, she has exposed audiences to the writing talents of Joni Mitchell, Randy Newman, and Canadian writer/poet Leonard Cohen.

Collins has built her career on instincts and sound musical judgment, being precise and always in the best of taste. At the start of her career in 1961, she was one of the noted folk singers to emerge from that era (along with Joan Baez and Joni Mitchell.) It was not long afterwards that she began to explore the music of her contemporaries, including Bob Dylan and Tom Paxton. Since that time she has brought her cathedral-like voice to many songs of conscience. She is among the music industry's most activist artists, long dedicated to fostering causes for peace and human rights throughout the world.

"I have to trust my instincts with songs that appeal to me...it is very important for me to be able to be an interpretative singer; even if I wrote the song, still the most exciting thing to me is to sing it myself the way I would want to interpret the material; after all, that is where my gifts are; I feel my strengths are as a storyteller."

The image of the storyteller is preserved on TRUST YOUR HEART, with messages of goodwill, hope, strength, and love; and Ms. Collins' unmistakable signature coming through on songs such as "Trust Your Heart," "Amazing Grace," "Day By Day," "The Life You Dream," "When A Child Is Born," and "The Rose." Each production gives a sense of timeless and eternal joy. "This time I wanted to do an album with songs of hope...I hope that through this album people will find pleasure, and it will make them hopeful, giving them a little alternative to what is presently going on in the world: disaster, decay, deception, and demise..."

Classically trained on the piano, Collins counts among her mentors Dr. Antonia Brico, the acclaimed orchestra conductor. Collins believed it was so important to bring attention to the artistry of Brico that she made the award-winning film, "Antonia: Portrait Of The Woman." This work claimed an Oscar nomination and a spot on TIME magazine's top-ten list, a rare feat for a documentary film.

Varied interests have encouraged Collins to lead a multi-faceted career. In addition to pop music concerts, she has made numerous appearances with many of the world's major symphonies including the London Philharmonic with Andre Previn. Collins also has legitimate stage credits having starred with Stacy Keach in the New York Shakespeare Theatre production of Peer Gynt.

A strong affection for the theatre has led Collins to make popular recordings of music from "Marat Sade" as well as from the songbooks of Brel, Brecht, and Weill, and, of course, the success of Sondheim's "Send In The Clowns." Collins continues this love of theatre productions with two of the most noteworthy tracks from her newest album, the first song being "Moonfall," from the Tony Award-winning musical, "The Mystery of Edwin Drood." This track was produced by the show's creator, Rupert Holmes. The second song is "Jerusalem," written by William Blake and originally was from the Oscar Award-winning movie and sound track "Chariots Of Fire," performed by the King's College Boy's Choir in England.

Collins speaks of how she transcended the label of a folk singer to become a leading musical and multi-talented performer. "I am a singer, I do many different styles of music, I do not need a label...at a time when I was a folk singer, I felt that there was a way in which I was being limited by what I was doing. In order to find out what else I could do I had to put the guitar down...I never wrote songs on the guitar, it was always on the piano, so now that I have been weaned away from the guitar, I can use it when I wish to instead of depending on it."

Collins has recently completed her autobiography for publication by Houghton Mifflin, and promises that it will be interesting. "...my life is not uninteresting, but sometimes I wish it had happened to someone else...A lot of eyebrows will be raised, but it's time I told about my dark journeys."

She also speaks about why she left Elektra Records after 24 years. "I ask myself why I didn't leave sooner. When I renewed my contract in 1979, I thought I had the support from the company for another three albums. What I later learned was that the company had really changed directions...I did not have the support that was needed."

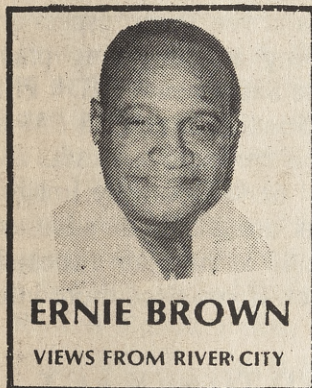
This is an album full of human kindness, a prayer for the future, and genuine good will that makes it Collins' offering for hope and peace in a modern-day world. This album does not forge or break any new musical ground for Collins, but still there is a magic that makes the album stand out and be special, revealing why she has captivated audiences and has had a loyal following for close to three decades.

SACRAMENTO

God's fingers reached down and touched them
and they slept:

*Ted Hathaway
Richard Hendra
Frank Labitoria
Ronald Strouse
Michael Westby*

You will be sadly missed by all of us who loved
you. Until we meet again, buddies!



It's understandable that all of us here in Sacramento could not attend the March on Washington. But our hats are off to the 200 delegates who did attend. I understand it was an incredible event. We have seen so many of our friends die, one by one.

It's been hard to keep our spirits high. However, it was a positive attitude that made the March on

Washington such a success. Congrats to our Sacto delegates and to all delegates from throughout the U.S. who made the March on Washington so highly successful. I think October 11, 1987 will long be remembered...Now, closer to home, we have a lot coming up during November...The Mercantile Saloon will have a Thanksgiving buffet on Thanksgiving Day starting at 12 noon...After that you can move on up the street to The Buffalo Club (which is under new ownership) for their annual Thanksgiving Dinner. Speaking of the new owner of The Buffalo Club, he is retaining all of our favorite bartenders: Larry, Scotty, & Jim. He knows a good team when he sees one. Good Luck to the new owner...The Western will have a cookout Sunday Nov. 22, sponsored by our Emperor & Empress, Ralph & Shay. All proceeds go to charity...LaKish is doing "it" again (and by "it," I don't mean what you think). Yes, s/he will be holding her third annual MCC Thanksgiving Basket Fundraiser, auction, and entertainment. Presenting for your entertainment, the one and only Mr. J. J. VanDyck. A Remember, this is all for charity,

See More ERNIE, Page 26.

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More ERNIE, From Page 25.

MCC, and Randi's Hand to Hand memorial fund...At Images, Sunday, November 8, Bobby Callicoatte will return, starting at 9 PM. Now you're talking about entertainment personified! Bobby is IT...The Wreck Room is planning an affair for Thanksgiving Eve, filled with prizes & surprises...You've simply, but simply, got to check out the professional entertainers that The Blue Moon is featuring this month: Nov. 11, The Washington Sisters, and Nov. 24, Heather Bishop...Faces has a calendar full of events for the month. Stop by there and check out their schedule...Note: One of our community brothers has opened a Mexican restaurant at the corner of 12th and "E" Streets. It's called Cafe Sanchez, serves Mexican breakfasts, lunches & dinner. I have tried it already. Good Luck, Senor Sanchez...Take-2 extends an invitation to drop over and see them, especially Thanksgiving weekend...Beau's will be having a new eating place soon; watch for their opening...Listen Up: The Sacramento AIDS Project is presenting "Stop Hop '87, Nov. 15, Sunday, from 2-6 PM at Images. A 50's theme program including music car hops on skates and entertainment. The afternoon's festivities will be followed by Image's weekly "Oldies but Goodies" night. Tickets are \$2.50 in advance, available at the Lambda Community Center; \$3 at the door. Proceeds will benefit the Sacramento Stop AIDS Project. If you need more info, call The Center: 442-0185.

CANCER LINKED TO SEX ACT

A medical study has shown that male homosexual practices appear to greatly increase the risk of anal cancer. Medical researchers in Boston reported recently that they have found a strong link between homosexual anal intercourse and anal cancer. They theorized that anal cancer probably results from transmission of the virus that causes warts. They calculated that the risk of anal cancer is at least 33 times higher in men who engage in receptive anal intercourse than in men who do not practice receptive anal intercourse.

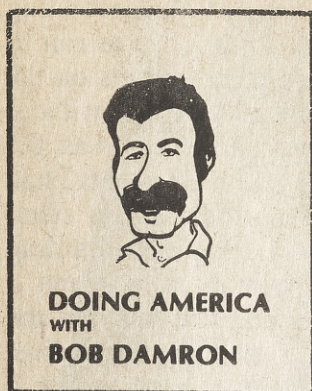
Activists Vote to Form Gay Congress

Just a few hours after staging a truly huge march on the nation's capitol, gay-rights advocates voted to create a Lesbian and Gay Congress to help coordinate grass-roots political activities around the country.

Ray Hill, a gay activist from Houston and an originator of the idea of forming such a congress, said, "The first time we meet we might not be 100 percent successful. But we will begin to evolve a movement that is inclusive of us all."

Although there are already several national homosexual groups, according to Steven Ault, a co-chairman of the Washington gay-rights events, "We don't have a grass-roots type of organization. You don't really win these victories by going from the top down."

LET'S RODEO!



The first international Gay Rodeo was recently held in San Francisco. This beautiful "City by the Bay" welcomed over 170 contestants competing in events ranging from bronco busting to steer decorating.

The rodeo started on Friday evening with the "California or Bust" party at the host hotel, the San Franciscan. The master (or should I say mistress) of ceremonies was the ever-so-lovely Fritz Capone--Miss IGRA 1986. The party had casino gambling, dancing, and some great entertainment including clogging exhibitions from some of the best cloggers this side of the Mississippi.

Rowell Ranch Rodeo Park outside of Hayward (about 45 minutes southeast of San Francisco) was the site for the rodeo competition. At high noon, on Saturday, the grand entry started with the parade of state flags and the various rodeo association colors. The grand marshal was George Voight, representing the Shanti Project.

The International Gay Rodeo is the last rodeo of the IGRA season with the best performers from the various state rodeos competing for the titles of All Around Cowboy or All Around Cowgirl. Rodeo events included rough-stock events such as bronco riding, bull riding, wild-cow riding, and chute doggin' in which the "dogger" has to pull a steer over a line and wrestle it to the ground. The problem is that the nose and feet must all face the same direction, not an easy task for a cowboy/cowgirl against an animal weighing over a thousand pounds.

One of the more exciting groups of events was the roping contests, in particular the mounted breakaway calf roping; the rider has two ropes and must maneuver them around the calf's neck or legs (those calves have all the fun!). Winning scores are usually under ten seconds!

Since it was a gay rodeo, there were also some great camp events. Steer Decorating, a timed team event in which the team which can tie a ribbon around the tail of a steer and get its

See More DAMRON, Page 28.

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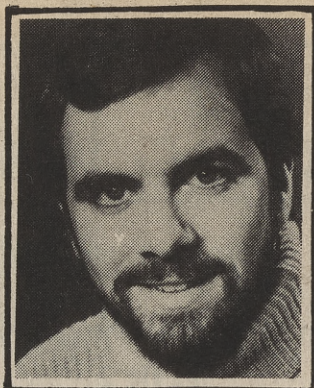
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DOUGLAS N. LEWIS

PATLAR Cover Model for November

Douglas N. Lewis is a writer and performer who currently resides in New York City. Besides writing for PATLAR, he also has a book of poetry submitted to publishers around the U.S. and is currently at work on a collection of short stories. He has appeared around the country as an actor/singer/dancer and has been seen in clubs, on the stage, and on TV. Doug is also an amateur photographer and enjoys traveling. Outside of performing, he has a "real" job working for one of the most prestigious publishing companies in the world; it pays the rent.

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PATLAR, November 1987, Page Twenty-eight

More DAMRON, From Page 27.

halter off fastest is the winner. Goat decorating is a competition in which a team has to run to tethered goat, put a pair of jockey shorts on the animal, and run back to the starting line without the shorts falling off the goat. There was the Wild Drag Race, one of the funniest events I had ever seen, involving three people and a steer. This event has a cowboy, a cowgirl, and a drag (either male or female, wearing a wig and a dress) racing a steer over one line wherein the drag tries to ride the steer over the finish line. Sounds easy, but have you ever tried to ride a steer sidesaddle?

Videos of the rodeo are available through Male Entertainment Network, One United Nations Plaza, San Francisco, CA 94101-7270.

HOROSCOPES

by Dr. Pat Larr

SCORPIO (Oct 23-Nov 22): Yes, you're BAD, and the whole world's going to answer your call; but first you should give your act a face-lift.

SAGITARIUS (Nov 23-Dec 21): The soap opera of your life reaches a cliff-hanger. Will that special someone discover the truth about you or not? Tune in next month.

CAPRICORN (Dec 22-Jan 19): A party person longs to blow your horn. Does he have the pipes for it? Time will tell!

AQUARIUS (Jan 20-Feb 18): Do strange foods keep calling out to you? Turkey Day brings you something to wrap your lips around that you won't soon forget.

PISCES (Feb 19-Mar 20): The roommate of a close friend causes big changes in your love life. Next time you pull a stunt like that, please pull the drapes.

ARIES (Mar 21-Apr 19): All the turkeys are out this month, and they're headed in your direction. By Thanksgiving you find a special someone who won't give you the bird.

TAURUS (Apr 20-May 20): By mid-month you'll spot someone who looks just like Justin Banks. Grab on to this clone, honey. It may be as close as you'll ever get to the real thing.

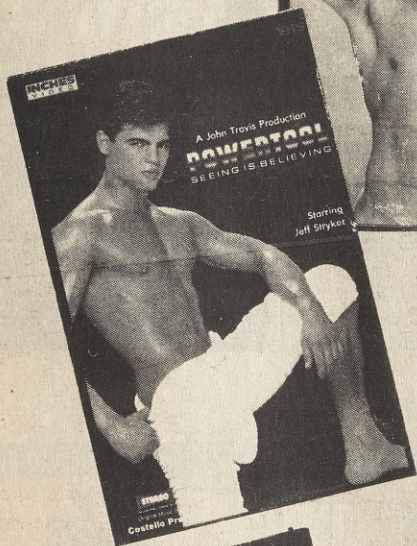
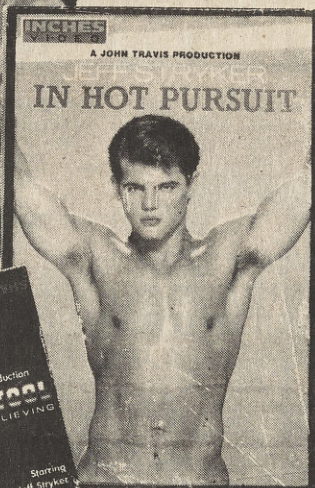
GEMINI (May 21-Jun 20): A devastatingly handsome stranger grabs your attention and won't let go. 'Tis a consumation devoutly to be wished--and it will happen.

CANCER (Jun 21-Jul 22): Halloween leftovers get you down until mid-month when you meet someone who really gives you a reason for thanks giving.

LEO (Jul 23-Aug 22): Turkey Day knocks the stuffing out of you when several prospective marriage partners pop out of the woodwork and pop the question.

VIRGO (Aug 23-Sep 22): Unforeseen expenses get you digging into your Christmas cash. A shopping spree may be just what you need, but don't blow your entire wad.

LIBRA (Sep 23-Oct 22): That special someone let's you have your way with him. Enjoy yourself, but just remember tit for tat (and we know you're full of tat).



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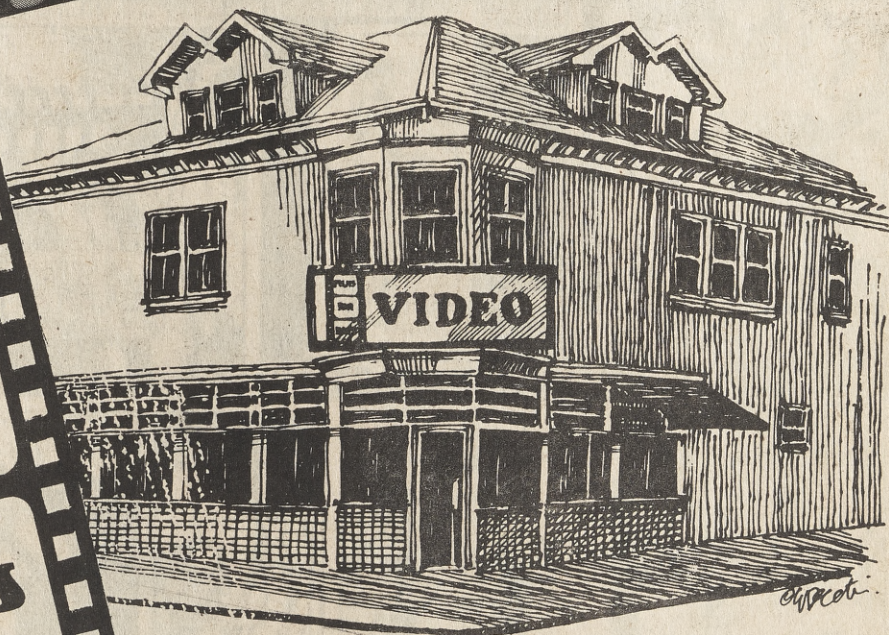
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GAMES

THE WIZARD OF OD

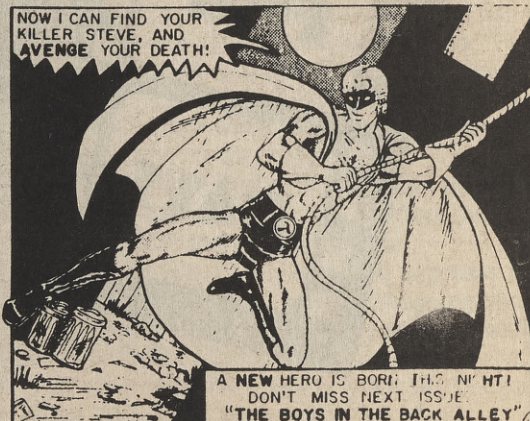
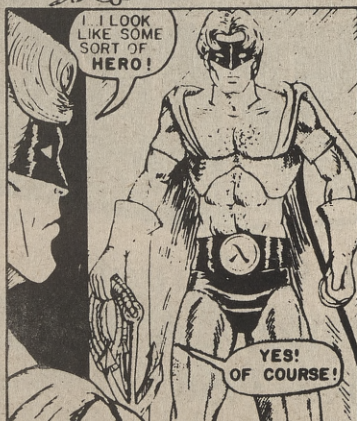
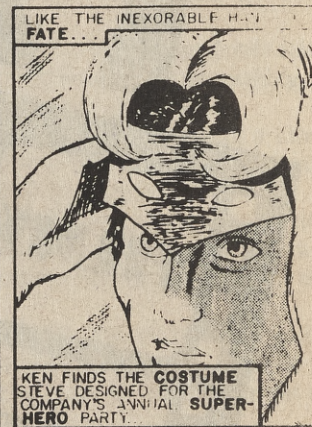
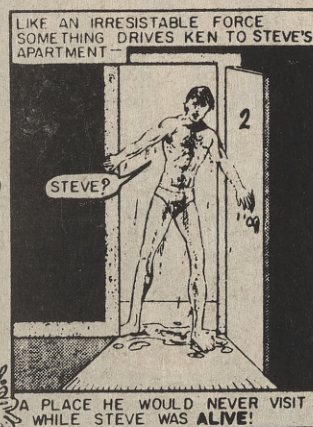
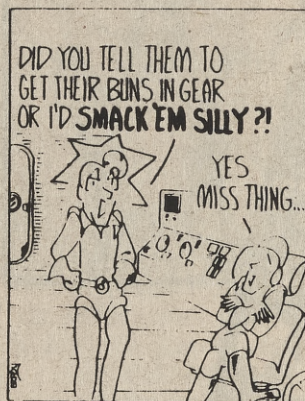
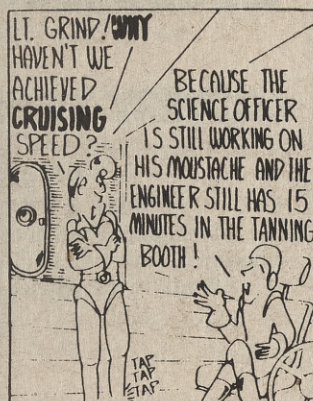
Unscramble the letters and see what wise saying he has for us.

*Several possibilities here, but the Wiz only likes one.

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Answers in Classified Section

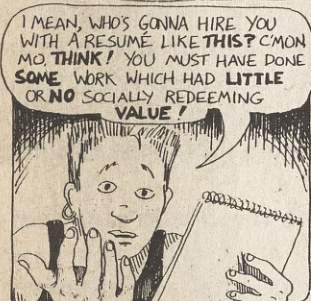
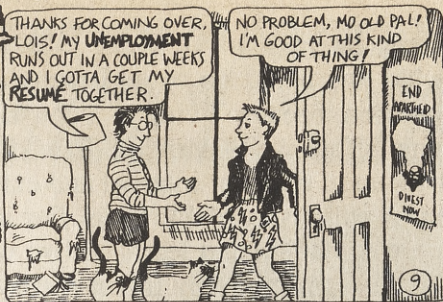
LIFE AT THE CLOSET DOOR



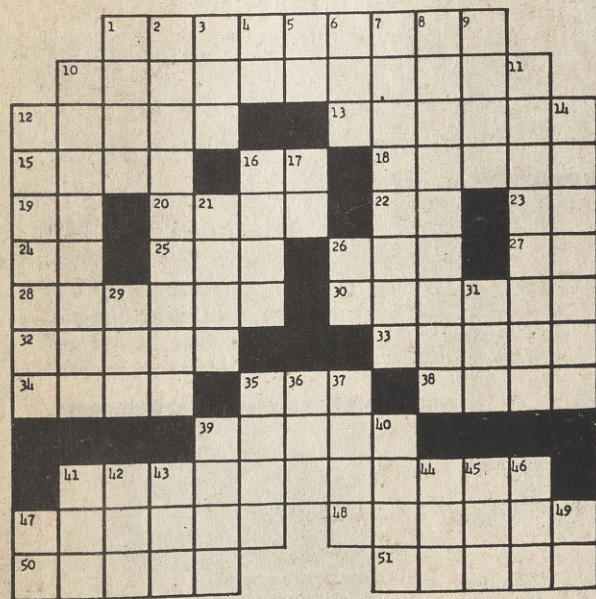
Dykes to Watch Out For

RESUME OF THE DAMNED

©1987 BY ALISON BECHDEL



CLOSET



ACROSS

1. Particular talent
10. Shut ins
12. Entire
13. Swipes
15. Cassava
16. Trial guy inits.
18. Moral standard
19. Meas. (ebs.)
20. Guy
22. Canada Prov.
23. Western zip inits.
24. Finan. note
25. Head part
26. Blew?
27. Gold meas.
28. Loner type
30. Folksong little guys
32. Interior
33. Chem. suffix
34. Measure (China)
35. Long
38. Wash. Senator star
39. Things
41. Closet feeling
47. Jumpy
48. Shrink back
50. Shameful act
51. O'Toole or a tool

DOWN

1. Feed pigs
2. Pigs?
3. Compass point
4. Pronoun (Fr.)
5. Pronoun
6. Bisex. term (pl.)
7. Possibly gay
8. Sleeping sickness insect
9. Affirmative (slang)
10. Fowl play objects
11. Mining soil
12. Warning (2 wds.)
14. Feces fellows (2 wds.)
16. Pointed play thing
17. News serv.
21. Pubic for one
26. Sobering group inits.
29. Med. union
31. Ind. live-wire org.
35. Legal rep.
36. Lang
37. Played Zhivago
39. _____ said the blind man
40. Stair
41. Pro
42. Queen's husband (Fr.)
43. Military inits.
44. Rocks in bar
45. Out (Scot.)
46. Never (Ger.)
47. Noble court head inits.
49. London ship rater inits.

LIVING IN TWO WORLDS

by Dr. Carrie Selva

A lovely young woman recently asked me what one could do to understand the fear generated while living in two worlds. This is an important question, because living in a constant state of fear can be devastating. We can live in fear for only so long before we experience "breakdown," or complete "shutdown." This "breakdown" or "shutdown" shows up in both our internal and external worlds.

As with most life experiences, we have numerous options available to us. For instance, we can let the fear control our lives and limit our happiness; we can adapt and learn to live with the fear; or we can learn to understand the fear and go beyond it. This is not to imply that it is easy, just that we have choices.

It takes time, energy, commitment, love, and most of all, courage. We spend extreme amounts of energy denying and fighting fear. Once we alleviate that wasted energy, it frees up vast amounts of energy to spend in pursuit of our life's goals and our personal happiness.

I use various exercises to help people face fear. These exercises are intended to increase understanding of your fear. It may help to remember that it is more difficult to cope with or eliminate a vague fear than a specific one.

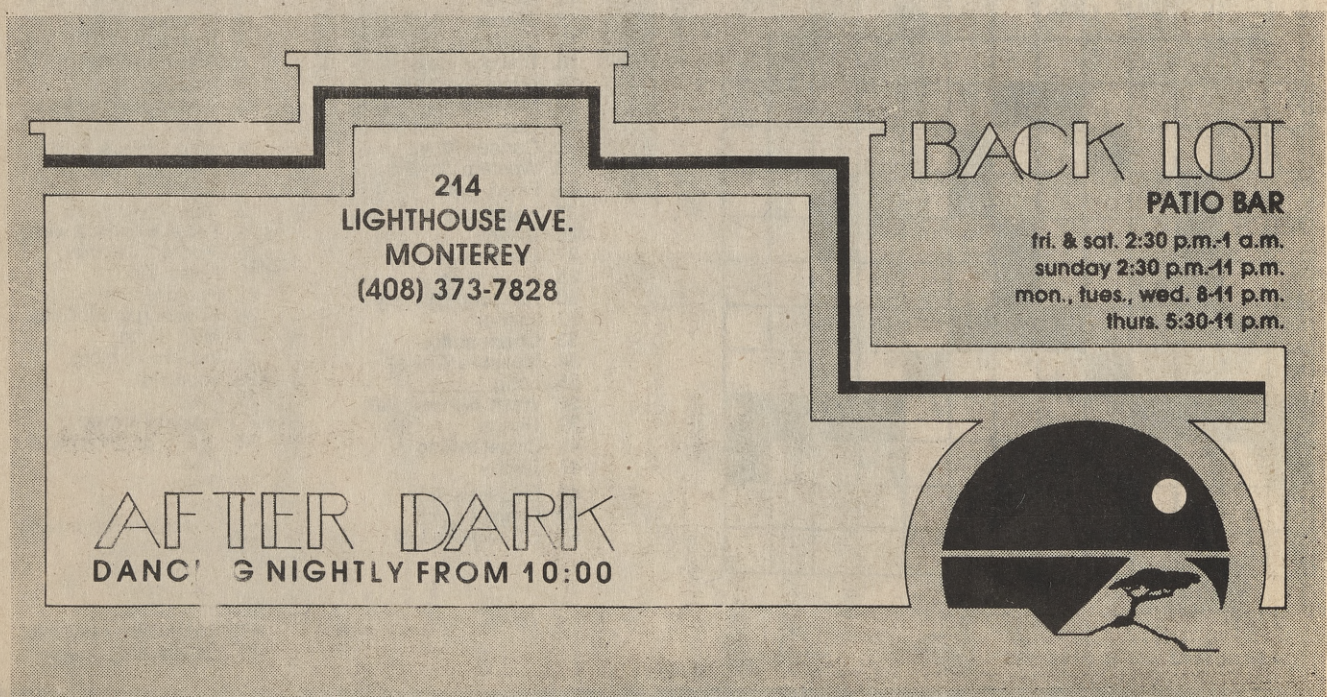
One of the first things to do is to look realistically at how closeted you must be in order to feel secure in your own life. Next, think about the fear you currently have and how that affects your current life experience. Write down or tape your feelings and thoughts about the fear, and how you experience it. How does it interfere in your life? How does it help? The fear may be serving a purpose other than you originally thought. Many times, my patients, upon closer scrutiny find that the fear protects them from deeper levels of intimacy.

What could you do to change the fear? What could you do to change the situation precipitating the fear? More importantly, what are you willing to do? What is holding you back?

Put the answers aside for awhile, then read or listen to them, while staying in touch with your feelings. Do your answers ring true with your heart? If not, ask yourself why? Share what you have learned about yourself and about the fear with someone you trust. Be open and honest. Lying never lessens the fear; it only perpetuates it.

After completing the exercise, pat yourself on the back. In a world where most choose to live in the darkness of ignorance, you have chosen the courageous path of enlightenment.

If you have questions or an issue you would like discussed, please write to Dr. Carrie Selva, c/o PATLAR, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

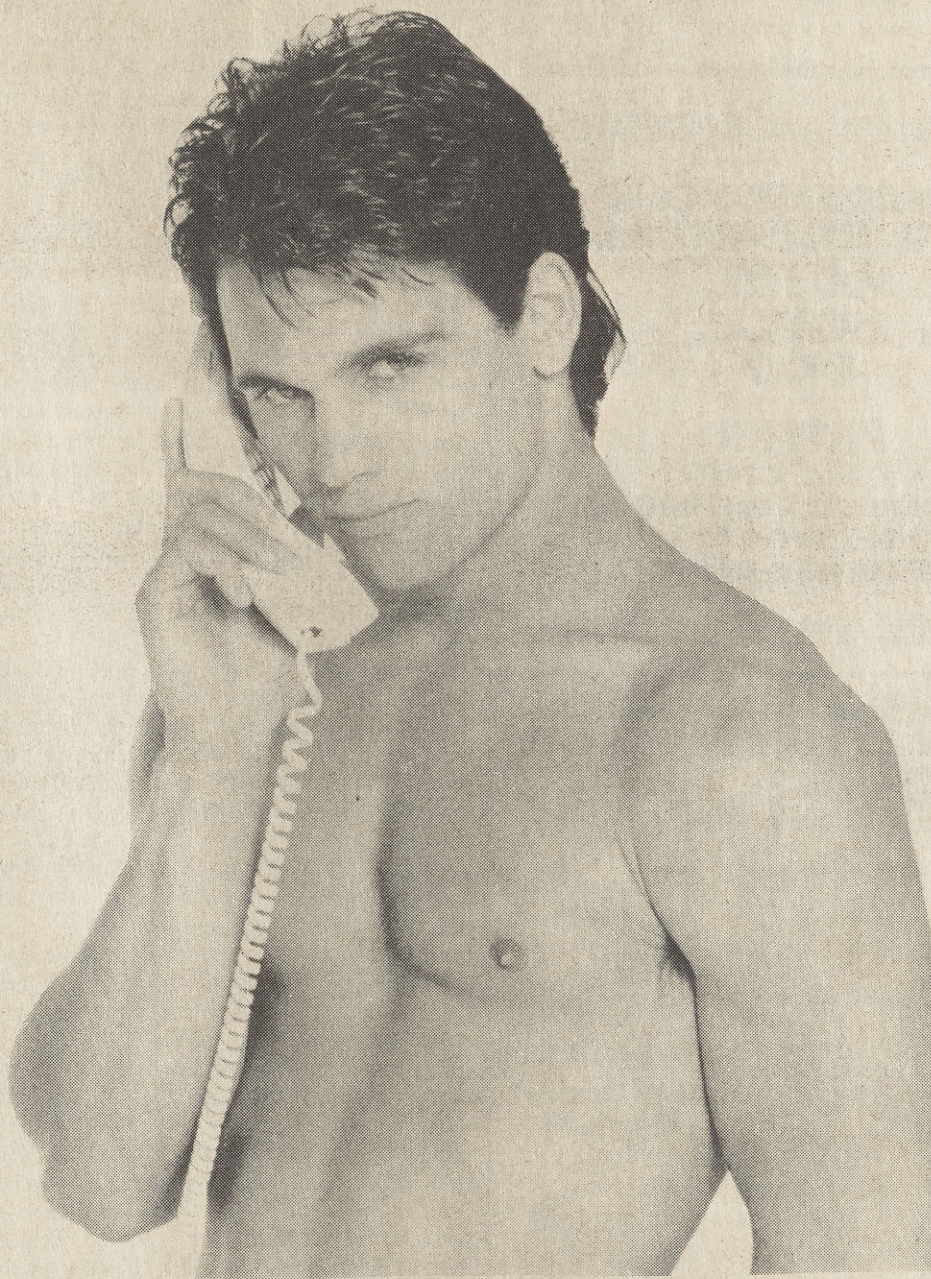


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PATLAR, November 1987, Page Thirty-three

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SWEET MELANCHOLY

by Douglas N. Lewis

I stand in the midst of early evening on a rain-washed cloud-clad day, inhaling the wet coolness of early autumn's sighing. Dusk's unearthly light emanates from everywhere--from the moisture-laden air, from the sea's bejeweled crests, from the ocean's constant caress upon the sandy shore. This heart-beat of the steadfast swell, marking the cadence of my own heart's beating. The beach. My beach. The rain, now blanketing mist, spent from my over-burden evercast life. All those passions that lie sleeping in my heart join with the gulls' plaintive calling and the gentle brushing of the wind to form a wholly new song--a lilting of peace and sadness--this sweet melancholy. This voluminous solitude being fulfilled by the rain, by the sea, by simply being me. Being nourished by the expanse of this enormous engulfing heart-breaking sea. I am imbued with a beautiful sadness and am at peace in my soul. A droplet slides lazily down my cheek, from the well of my heart or from the storm's quiet passing--I don't know from where, nor does it really matter. I am the tempest calmed. I am nurtured by myself. By all that has come before and all that is now. And within this sustenance I stand. I am.

Feeling this way is not an unusual occurrence for me. It most often occurs after something has gotten me down. Feeling alone. Feeling betrayed. Insecure--any of a myriad of things that cause me to question who I am and what I want. Inevitably I reach a point where the separateness turns inside out and there is an opening, a flowering that starts from my soul and blossoms outward to embrace the whole world. I feel a connection, an alliance between my small being and the rest of the universe.

I used to think that I was alone in this feeling, but when I could finally express myself well enough to explain what this was, I found that other people had similar experiences. It began to dawn on me that this sweet melancholy was some sort of safety valve released when the world became too much. When pain was seemingly constant and endless. This dark rapture was some sort of spiritual touch that provided my heart and spirit with the soothing and salve of the love I had waiting, lying in boundless oceans waiting for recognition. I began to understand the concept of being one with the universe. My spiritual reservoirs being so readily available and accessible was, to me, surprising. I guess I had begun to believe that spirituality was some sort of mystic phantom speaking just out of my reach. That there was some edict that forbade mere men to partake of the coolness and nourishment of the inner worlds. That the spiritual world was only for those people who gave up sensuality and sexuality, something I couldn't quite understand. It was this amazing sensation, this almost sensual pleasure of sweet melancholy that brought me home to the truth, or at least my truth. Spirituality was not just the realm and dominion of the church or the synagogue. It belonged to us all, if we took the time to experience and discover it. My attraction to this heaviness of heart was my soul's way of introducing me to that which is invisible and yet ever-present--peace. Standing by the sea, I found within myself worlds that were immensely rich and textured, as if the combination of this magnificent beauty and my solitary blues intertwined in such a way as to create an opening, a chasm that was filled with purity and light. You have probably experienced this phenomenon yourself when alone in the great outdoors, or maybe by watching a particularly moving

See More LEWIS, Page 36.

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More RECURRENTS
From Page 3

with love and support, who form a circle of light inside which each of us reside, safe and unstoppable. Let us be grateful to live in a free country where our voices can be heard. A place where it is possible to counter the ignorance--and therefore you MUST counter it. When you are taunted as a "faggot" or "dyke," you must confront it in the present and let your voice be heard. Your voice must reach those people in Arcadia, Florida. Your voice must reach Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC) who calls us "perverts" and who says that each time he thinks of us he "wants to vomit." We must all act in the present to ensure that we do, indeed, have a future in this world.

And on the lighter side, I'd

like to add my thanks to all of you who read my words and are uplifted by them; uplifted enough, I hope, to give thanks to yourself right now, at this moment. And of course--how could I forget--I'd like to give thanks to those fabulous Pilgrims, without whom we could never experience this whole darn turkey-thing. Happy Thanksgiving!

More LEWIS, From Page 34.

movie or play or singer. Art, to me, brings this mirror of the soul up to our eyes much the same way as a beautiful scene or happening. And that I would choose to express myself in the brushstrokes of words seems to me to be right and just.

Take the time to experience yourself in whatever condition you are in at that moment. Don't be afraid of feeling down or alone. Within any given moment lies the answer to all that you could possibly ask. From my sweet melancholy came the possibility of peace and the gift of growth. And remember that out of the seemingly useless ash arises the most miraculous of birds, the Phoenix.

FAUX PAS

by Ed E. Kett

Dear Mr. Kett,

So what's it to be? My roommate says that if you're throwing a party it's best to mail out your invitations, especially if they're engraved. He says these queens, excuse me, gentlemen, like to be treated like queens. I say 'the hell with that.' So many of these gentlemen move so often that my datebook has more erasures than the Nixon tapes. I say 'who cares if you receive your invitation by post or by hand?' Only a snob would worry about such things. And anyway, I don't expect my guests to go around comparing notes as to how their invitations were received. What do you say?

Wonderingly,

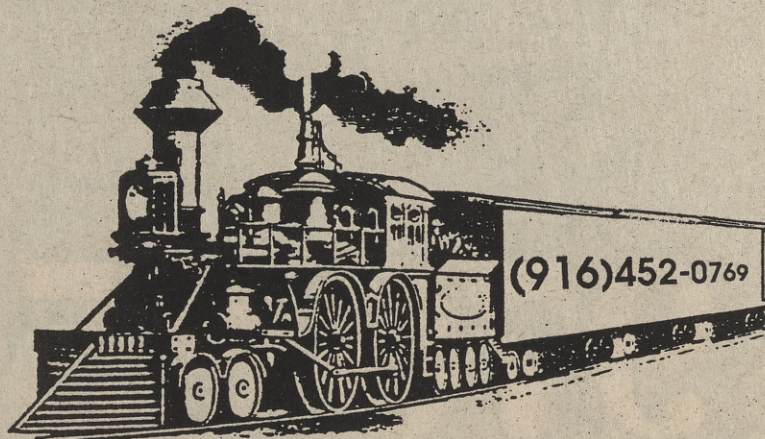
Woody

Dear Woody,

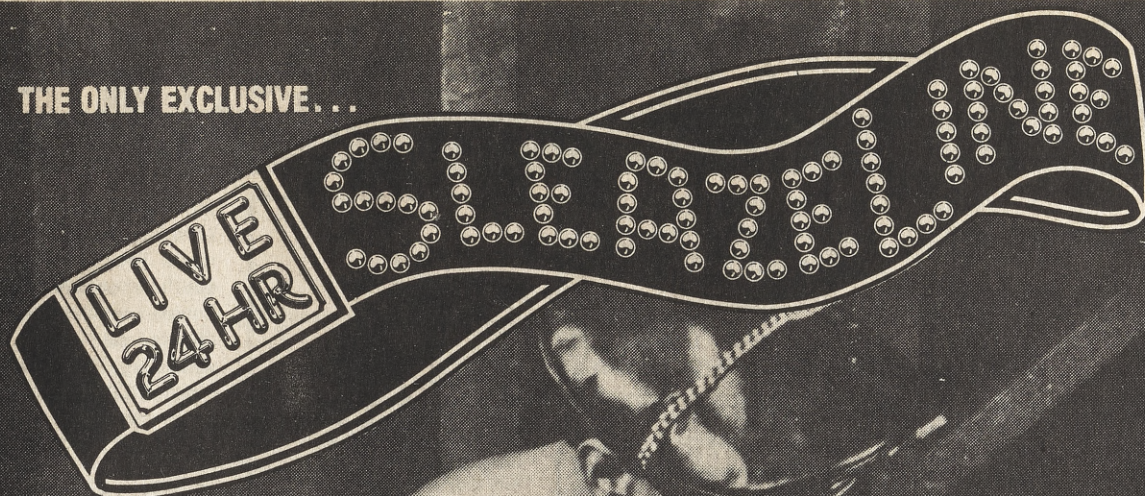
I say the success of the party is the main thing to worry about, and if some humpy guy isn't invited to your party because you don't have his correct address it really doesn't matter how many postage stamps you can afford. What would you rather have, a well-attended party full of beautiful people or a party full of the same old faces? The Young and the Restless or the Dying Dynasty crowd?

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PATLAR, November 1987, Page Thirty-eight

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SAFE SEX PARTNER, bi WM 47 180 lbs, hairy, masculine, fit, tests negative, seeks male or female bi for friends, socializing and possible partner. I have a younger safe-sex partner. We both wish to have another male and/or female to enlarge our safe circle of friends who may become lovers. He's 35, blond, bi. Write with picture and I will return same. You may have a partner. I seek fit, hairy men or sensuous woman, lesbian OK. Lance Gorman, 862 Clark Avenue, Yuba City, CA 95991.

BALLS wanted. Looking for GWM who are into ball torture. I am a S 40, 5'6". I give, not receive. Call Bob (916) 666-0452. [810PL]

GOOD TIMES: GWM enjoying life but missing friend/lover to share the good times. Hiking, walking, theater, dining, music and fireplaces. I am a professional. You are also a professional who enjoys your career but keeps work in its proper perspective. Only persons committed to fun-loving, honest partnership need apply. Write Patlar Ad 3-08, c/o Patlar, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

GAY INTRODUCTION SERVICE

If the idea of an arranged date intrigues you, give Man-To-Man a call. It is the only gay oriented dating service in the Sacramento area. The service is designed to put a man in touch with another man who shares common interests, backgrounds and goals. The men must develop a friendship/relationship on their own after the introduction.

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TOP MAN wanted, Earl (916) 448-4173. (811PL)

NEED FRIENDS: If you need friends, I'll share mine. If you want sex, that's easy to find. But, if you want a special person, heart, love, mind then drop me a line. I'm one of a kind. Hubert, PO Box 188492, Sacramento, CA 95818. Photo if possible. (84PL)

HANDSOME LOVER WANTED: GWM 24, 5'9" 160 lbs, brw hair and eyes looking for handsome cowboy or jock for longterm relationship, go dancing, cuddle under the stars. No drugs or poppers, like all kinds of music, not heavy, read or look at GQ Magazine. Call Sun/Mon 11:05 AM to 6:05 PM. (702) 359-3419. [81PL]

HONG KONG, Seoul, Hawaii, GWM 52 leaving about Oct 1, wants loving companion. Air fare/hotel provided. If you can furnish something, no drugs or drunks, can obtain passport, write Gary, PO Box 1158, Citrus Heights, CA 95611. It will be fantastic. (710PL)

21-40 TYPE gwm 24 5'9" 160# brown hair and eyes with glasses, Nevada native seeks a cute cowboy or jock or hunk with a moustache. The ones I like have blond, black, red, or brown hair. Seeking a California, Oregon, or Nevada native for meaningful relationship. I like to go dancing or to spend quiet nights together as lovers, or go the the movies or dinner or stay home and do it. Like to drive out of town and make love under the stars. Like all kinds of food and music. No drugs or poppers. Tobacco & social drinking OK. Have Sun/Mon off; would like lover to have same days off. I've live in Sparks and play in Reno. I don't drive. I like guys with all sorts of names!! Call 3-6:30 PM (702) 359-3419 M & F. Ask for Steve or reply to Resident, Apt. 9, 930 1st, Sparks, NV 89431. (88PL)

COMMUNICATION, communication, communication! The three most important ingredients of a quality relationship. Others? A good sense of humor, warm personality, physical attraction, intelligence, and true friendships. I'm a professional WM, mid-40s, capable of each of the above. I enjoy shopping, walking, and communicating. I'm looking for a friend with similar characteristics and a positive outlook, a sense of adventure, appreciation for the spontaneous, and a great smile. If this is you...let's communicate! Write Patlar Ad 3-04, c/o Patlar, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

YOUR MOVE! Very attractive, sensuous, professional WM, 40s, enjoys art, film, hiking, stimulating conversation, long drives, seeks warm, highly educated professional man (complex but sane around the edges) 30s, 40s for mature honest relationship. Write Patlar Ad 3-06, c/o Patlar, PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

HANDSOME lover wanted, 24-50. GWM 24 5'9" 160 lbs, Nevada native looking for Calif. lover with blond hair, blue eyes, baby face who goes by the name John, Dave, Steve, Mike, Pete, Paul, Ed, Curt, Bob, Rob, Jim, Joe, Jason, Rick, Don, Skip, Bill, Dan, Don, Len, etc. who likes to go dancing, to cuddle at night under the stars or in my house. You have a blue or red mustang. You will be treated like a queen. I need a reply and photo because I will be putting your photo in a box and on November 18, 1987 I will play "pick a lover" in order to play "send a photo." Send reply and photo to Steven Morrison, 930 "T" Street #9, Sparks, NV 89431. [712PL]

HAIRY MEN & ADMIRERS: New/hot nat'l. adlistings. Info \$3: Hair, 59 W. 10 St., NY, NY 10011. (711PL)

GWM, good looking, 26, 5'10" 150 lbs, straight acting. No: AIDS, herpes, overweights, heavy drug users please. Jim PO Box 237, 3317 Julliard, Sacramento, CA 95825. [87PL]

ARE YOU WARM, intelligent, sincere & have an appreciation for a man with the same qualities? Please respond by calling (916) 381-0286. [711PL]

TOP MAN WANTED, call Earl (916) 443-4173. [710PL]

GWM 52 seeks handsome, masc. hispanic, photo-phone to Chas. PO Box 161383, Sacramento, CA 95816. [712PL]

HELP! I'm trapped in a classified ad. I'm a GWM 165#, 5'10", yg 40s, blue eyes and brown hair, live in Sacramento and would like to meet others who live in the same area. I'm not a bar-oriented person. If you are interested in setting me free, please write. All responses will be answered. Write Patlar Ad 2-01, c/o PO Box 22402, Sacramento, CA 95822.

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